



SHOW ME THE MONEY!

How do I get my Scholarship?

The time has come for you to understand how to access your College Bound Scholarship. You and your family play an important part in the process—you must complete all forms correctly *and* submit them on time. Below is an outline of what to do and when to do it.

The Basics

- Graduate from high school with at a 2.0 GPA or higher. Remember that College Bound does not guarantee admission to college and many colleges require a higher GPA.
- Apply for admission to college.
- File the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

“Got it. What else do I have to do?”

File Your FAFSA on Time and Online

The FAFSA is the primary application for all student aid and is used for federal and state grants, work-study, and other assistance. The information that you provide on the FAFSA will determine if your family’s income meets the guidelines to receive the College Bound Scholarship.

File the FAFSA at www.fafsa.gov, even if:

- You are not sure you will go to college.
- You don’t know how much financial aid you will need.
- You don’t know what other scholarships you may receive.

Complete the FAFSA as soon as possible after January 1, and preferably before February 1, of your senior year of high school. You may complete the FAFSA later, but financial aid is limited, so don’t delay. The college you wish to attend will probably require you to complete more financial aid forms. Check with the financial aid office and meet all deadlines!

February 1 is the FAFSA priority filing date!

Receive Your ‘Match Email’

The Washington Student Achievement Council (the Council) will email you—using the email address you listed on the FAFSA, when your original College Bound application is matched to your FAFSA.

This email will tell you what you must do next—complete more forms, apply for college, etc. Your name will then be sent to the colleges you listed on the FAFSA notifying them that you are a College Bound Scholarship student.

Call or email the Council within 2 weeks of submitting your FAFSA if you do not receive the ‘Match Email’ from us: 1-888-535-0747; collegebound@wsac.wa.gov

“That’s it?” Not quite - keep reading.

Campuses Calculate Your Award

- After the colleges you listed on the FAFSA verify that you are a College Bound Scholarship student, the financial aid office will:
 - Determine if your income meets the guidelines.
 - Calculate your financial aid award.
 - Send you an Award Letter after you have been accepted to the college indicating how much financial aid you will receive.

“Okay, so - what does CB cover and how will I actually GET the money?”

Your College Bound award will combine with other state financial aid you may receive to cover the average tuition (at comparable public colleges), some fees and a small book allowance. In some cases the college will provide you with funds (direct deposit, debit card, etc.) from other financial aid to cover living and other expenses.

Summary

- Graduate with at least a 2.0 GPA. For admission to many colleges, you will need a higher GPA.
- Apply for admission to college.
- File the FAFSA – as soon after January 1 as possible and by the February 1 priority date.
- Meet all financial aid deadlines and provide all other documents needed by the college.
- Call the Council if you don’t hear from us within 2 weeks of filing the FAFSA: **1-888-535-0747**.
- After you are accepted to college, the Financial Aid office will send you an Award Letter.
- The College Bound Scholarship award will be sent directly to the college and the college will disburse the funds to you.

